



CATAWBA COUNTY

3070 11th Ave. Dr. SE - Hickory, NC 28602 - (828) 695-5800 - Fax (828) 695-4410 - TDD (828) 695-5155

Public Health

Kellie Coffey, Public Information Officer Ph: 828-695-5772

Debbie Johnson, Immunizations Charge Nurse Ph: 828-695-5832

Back to School Means Required Immunizations for Children

Catawba County Public Health is celebrating National Immunization Awareness Month by encouraging parents and caregivers to check their family's immunization records to see if they are up-to-date and if they are missing any vaccinations. Immunizations play a vital role in protecting children who are entering school from preventable diseases. However, many children are not fully protected because their vaccines are not up-to-date.

Children entering Kindergarten must be up-to-date with the following immunizations: 4 Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (DTaP), 4 Polio, 2 Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), 3 Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib), 3 Hepatitis B, and 1 Varicella. Children entering 6th grade are required to have a Tdap booster if they have not had one in the past 5 years. The state of North Carolina requires that students have an up-to-date immunization record on file at their school. If the up-to-date immunization record is not received by the school during the first 30 days of the school year, the child may not be allowed to return to school until they submit their immunization record.

Debbie Johnson, Immunization Charge Nurse for Catawba County Public Health, explained the importance of child immunizations. "Students should not miss school for something as simple as receiving a vaccine. All parents and caregivers should review their child's immunization record, or contact Catawba County Public Health to insure that their child's immunization record is up-to-date. It's important that they not miss out on valuable class time."

Vaccines are extremely safe. They are thoroughly tested before being approved for public use and monitored carefully by doctors, researchers, and public health officials.

For more information or to update your child's immunization record, contact Catawba County Public Health at 695-5881. Most immunizations for children through 18 years of age are administered at no charge. In addition to childhood immunizations, Catawba County Public Health also offers adult and foreign travel immunizations by appointment.



"Leading the Way to a Healthier Community"

www.catawbacountync.gov/phealth

